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18. (Amended) A display apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein a connecting part between the second electrodes of the semiconductor device and the first conductor ends of the conductors on the flexible wiring member is sealed with a resin.

19. (Amended) A display apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein the second electrodes of the semiconductor device are connected to the first conductor ends of the conductors of the flexible wiring member with an anisotropic conductive adhesive.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, and 13-29 are pending. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 13-15 and 17-19 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 10-12 have been cancelled without prejudice. The specification has been amended as to matters of form. A Request for Approval of Drawing Changes is submitted herewith. Claims 1 and 13 are the only independent claims under consideration.

Applicants have not yet received initialed copies ✓
of the Forms PTO-1449 that were forwarded with the
Information Disclosure Statements dated July 24, 1997 and ✓
September 12, 1997. The Examiner is requested to forward
initialed copies of those forms with the next Office Action.

With regard to the elected species, the Examiner has added Claim 19 to those claims reading on the elected species. However, while Claim 19's base Claim 13 may read on the elected species, Claim 19 itself reads on Fig. 7. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to reconsider his designation of Claim 19 as reading on the elected species.

With regard to the objections to the figures, the Examiner required that Figs. 12-14 be labelled as Prior Art. This has been effected in the Request for Approval of Drawing Changes submitted herewith. As to the objection to Fig. 5, that figure is proposed to be amended to make clear that the unlabelled element is a continuation of the material that was previously labelled as 4a. In the proposed drawing change, the designation 4a is now used throughout Figs. 4-7, to refer to the combination of elements 4 and 17.

With respect to Fig. 13, additional reference numerals have been added to that figure to refer to the elements requested to be labelled in the Office Action. The specification has been amended to discuss the sealing agent shown in the figure. No new matter is being added to the description of the prior art device.

The specification was objected to because reference number "4" was used to designate two different parts. As shown above, the specification has been amended at page 15, line 7 to correct a typographical error and change reference numeral "4" to --5--.

Claims 2 and 11 were objected to as allegedly being in improper dependant form. Cancellation of Claim 11 renders its objection moot. Claim 2 has been amended to even more clearly structurally limit the claim with respect to its base claim. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim 13 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly not being enabled by the disclosure. As to Claim 13, the feature objected to in the Office Action, "pixel electrodes extending to form the electrode terminal" is clearly and fully described in the specification at least at page 10, line 14 to page 11, line 3. As to Claim 19, as discussed above, that claim is not believed to read on the elected species. The subject matter of the claim is, however, at least supported by Fig. 7 and the corresponding description in the specification.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 11, 13-15 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. First, cancellation of Claims 10-12 renders the rejections of those claims moot.

The claims have been carefully reviewed and amended as deemed necessary to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of Section 112, second paragraph.

With respect to the recitation of the first and second ends, in both independent Claims 1 and 13, it is recited that each of the conductors extends from a first end to a second end. To make more clear that the first and second ends are ends of the conductor and not of the flexible

wiring members, the claims have been amended where appropriate to read "first conductor end" or "first conductor ends" and, "second conductor end" or "second conductor ends." Since the original recitation of the first and second ends is plural in nature, that is, the claims recite that each conductor includes a first and second conductor end, the subsequent recitation of groups of such first and second conductor ends is perfectly proper. Applicants submit that once it is recited that each of plural elements has a feature, there is no reason why subsequent recitations cannot be plural.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 14 and 15, each has been amended in the manner suggested in the Office Action. It is believed that the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious in view of admitted prior art. Claims 6, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious from admitted prior art in view of U.S. Patent 5,311,341 (Hirai). Claims 4 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious from admitted prior art in view of Hirai and further in view of Kikuchi Masayoshi.

The admitted prior art of Fig. 13, applied against the independent claims, discloses a connection structure in which a semiconductor device (5p) has first (output) electrodes, the first electrodes being connected to the

electrode terminals (12p) of the first substrate (1bp) via a flexible wiring member (4ap). Fig. 13 does not teach or suggest a semiconductor device in which first (output) electrodes are directly connected to the electrode terminals of the first substrate forming a substrate of a display panel.

As is made even more clear in the above amendments to Claims 1 and 13, in the connection structure defined in the independent claims, a semiconductor device is directly connected to a substrate of a display panel and is indirectly connected to a circuit board supplying input power and drive signals to the display panel.

The claimed connection structure solves the problems of the prior art connection structure as discussed in pages 2 to 4 of the specification.

By virtue of the recited connection structure, it becomes possible to attain advantageous effects as discussed at page 6, line 23 to page 7, line 27 of the specification. The recited connection structure is especially effective for ICs having a larger number of output electrodes arranged at a shorter pitch than the input electrodes, as described at page 15, line 22 to page 16, line 11.

The admitted prior art of Fig. 13 suffers from the problems discussed at page 2, line 19 to page 3, line 7 of the specification.

Accordingly, the amended independent claims are believed to distinguish over the cited prior art of Fig. 13.

A review of the other art of record, including Hirai and Kikuchi, has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.


The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to our below
listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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